Over subscription of public issues of shares and their utilisation

865. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the equity shares are over-subscribed during the Public issue of shares thereby creating sufficient surplus to be returned to the subscribers;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to utilise the oversubscribed surplus in the industrial development of the country; and

(c) whether Government propose to utilise this for the revival of sick Public Sector Undertakings by writing off their losses and privatising these sick units inviting equity participation by public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) It is correct that several issues of equity shares to the public are over-subscribed necessitating refund of excess application money.

(b) Under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 the excess application money is required to be repaid to the applicants.

(c) Does not arise in view of the reply to (b) above.

Increase in drug menace

866. SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the menace of narcotic drug is increasing; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to eradicate the menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) Information available does not indicate increase in trafficking of narcotic drugs in India from after the year 1988. The Government attaches very high priority to tackle illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

Various steps in the matter have been taken by the Government such as improving enforcement, improving liaison with national and international agencies such as I.C.P.O.—INTERPOL, International Narcotics Control Board, Customs Co-operation Council etc. The law was amended to provide stringent punishments by an amendment in the year 1989.

Cases of Narcotics smuggling

867. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR
SHRI M. VINCENT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of cases of narcotics smuggling apprehended, drugs seized and prosecutions launched during the year 1988, 1989, 1990 and 1991, year-wise; and

(b) whether Government propose to amend the Narcotics Act to make punishment more stringent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The details of quantity of important drugs seized with number of cases in brackets and persons prosecuted for drug offences

during the years 1988, 1989, 1990 and 1991 are as given below:

(In kg.

Name of drug	1988	1989	1990	1991
Opium	3304 (512))	4855 (1658)	2114 (506)	1977 (526)
Heroin	3029 (489)	2714 (1248)	2193 (764)	621 (1156)
Ganja	45994 (592)	54463 (3612)	39090 (1782)	48210 (3129)
Hashish	17523 (419)	8179 (687)	6388 (753)	4397 (326)
Methaqualone	1649 (40)	887 (75)	2141 (60)	4415 (78)
Morphine	23 (24)	92 (14)	6 (27)	5 (20)
No. of persons prosecuted	3704	3694	4299	5400

(b) The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic substances Act has been amended in the year 1989 in order to make the punishment provisions stringent. The Government would propose any amendment of the Act to make punishment provisions more stringent.

Action against rice hoarders

868. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Income Tax Authorities in Delhi have taken note of the unearthing of rice valued at Rs. 40 crores in January, 1992 and have taken any steps against the three proprietors involved for concealing income and evading income tax;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) if no, action has been taken what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the authorities propose to take action to ensure that the documents are not tampered with?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (d) The Department of Food and Supplies of the Delhi Administration had conducted checking of 17 foodgrain dealers of Delhi during January, 1992 to verify the quantity of stock available with them. The income represented by unaccounted stocks if any will be liable for assessment next year. However immediate action has been taken by the Income-tax Department and information collected by the Delhi Administration has been obtained for the purpose of appropriate action in the assessment proceedings.

एक प्राकृतिक आपदा राहत कोष की स्थापना

569. **श्री लक्खीराम अग्रवाल :** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि नौवें वित्त आयोग की सिफारिश पर प्रत्येक राज्य में एक प्राकृतिक आपदा राहत कोष की स्थापना की गई है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार द्वारा इस कोष में, राज्यवार, कितनी राशि का अंशदान किया गया है ;